

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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E.O. 11652: DECONTROL AFTER BROADCAST

TAGS: PFOR, JA, US

SUBJECT: DEPSEC INGERSOLL INTERVIEW BY NHK

1. FOLLOWING IS TRANSCRIPT OF INTERVIEW DEPSEC INGERSOLL
GAVE NHK-TV COMMENTATOR HISANORI ISOMURA EVENING AUG 1.
TELEPHONE INTERVIEW FILMED FOR BROADCAST IN JAPAN ON QUOTE
NINE P. M. UNQUOTE SHOW AUG. 4, PENDING TIMELY RECEIPT OF
FILM SENT FROM WASHINGTON VIA NWA MORNING AUG. 2. EMBARGOED
UNTIL BROADCAST BY NHK.

2. BEGIN QUOTE:

Q MR. SECRETARY, HAVE YOU FINISHED EVERY NECESSARY PRE-
PARATION FOR COMING VISIT BY PREMIER MIKI?

A I BELIEVE THE PREPARATIONS ARE FULLY IN ORDER, MR.
ISOMURA.

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Q AND DO YOU PLAN TO BRIEF THE PRESIDENT WHEN HE COMES

HOME FROM EUROPE?

A YES. HE HAS ALREADY HAD SOME BRIEFING, BUT WE WILL GIVE HIM A FINAL BRIEFING WHEN HE ARRIVES.

Q
AND SO BESIDES THE REVIEW OF INTERNATIONAL SITUATION BY THE TWO HEADS OF GOVERNMENT, WHAT DO YOU HAVE IN MIND AS AGENDA FOR THE TALKS, SIR?

A WELL, I BELIEVE THAT AT THE CURRENT STATUS, BILATERAL RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES BEING IN SUCH GOOD CONDITION, THAT MOST OF THE CONVERSATION WOULD PROBABLY BE ON MULTILATERAL RELATIONSHIPS AND THE STATE OF THE WORLD.

WE HAVE COME A LONG WAY IN THE PAST FEW YEARS IN MINIMIZING THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES, AND I CAN SAY THAT WE ARE PLEASED THAT THIS CONDITION EXISTS SO THAT WE CAN CONCENTRATE MORE ON THE MULTILATERAL ISSUES.

Q MR. SECRETARY, JUST ONE YEAR AGO, YOU DESCRIBED THE US-JAPAN RELATIONS AS "NEEDS ONLY FINE-TUNING." AND HOW WOULD DESCRIBE TODAY, THE US-JAPAN RELATIONS, SIR?

A WELL WITH THE VISIT OF PRESIDENT FORD AND SECRETARY KISSINGER TO JAPAN LAST NOVEMBER, AND WITH THE VISIT OF FOREIGN MINISTER MIYAZAWA THIS SPRING, AND NOW WITH PRIME MINISTER MIKI COMING HERE IN THE NEXT FEW DAYS AND WITH THE EMPEROR COMING IN THE FALL -- I THINK THAT THE CONTACTS HAVE BEEN OF SUCH A NATURE THAT THE FINE TUNING HAS BECOME ALMOST IMPERCEPTIBLE, SO THAT WE HAVE ALMOST NO TUNING, NOW. WE HAVE DONE SO WELL IN EXCHANGING VIEWS AND THOSE MINOR IRRITATIONS HAVE BEEN MOSTLY REMOVED.

Q

WELL, SECRETARY OF STATE KISSINGER MADE A SPEECH BEFORE THE JAPAN SOCIETY LAST MONTH.

A YES.
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Q AND I QUOTE -- HE TOLD THAT "THE UNITED STATES SHOULD MAINTAIN ITS TREATY OBLIGATIONS TO JAPAN."

AND NO ONE, I THINK, DOUBTS ABOUT THE US CREDIBILITY OVER JAPAN -- BUT WOULD YOU REAFFIRM THAT KIND OF COMMITMENT IN THE FINAL COMMUNIQUE?

A WELL I AM NOT SURE WHAT THE FINAL COMMUNIQUE WILL SAY, BECAUSE THAT IS UP TO THE TWO LEADERS WHO WILL BE MEETING. BUT OF COURSE THIS HAS BEEN REAFFIRMED, NOT ONLY IN THE SECRETARY'S SPEECH, BUT IN HIS CONVERSATIONS WITH FOREIGN MINISTER MIYAZAWA WHEN HE WAS HERE IN THE SPRING.

WHETHER OR NOT THAT ACTUALLY APPEARS, I THINK, IS PERHAPS IMMATERIAL, BECAUSE I THINK EVERYONE RECOGNIZES HOW FIRM IT IS.

Q WELL I THINK NO ONE IN THIS COUNTRY HAS EVER DOUBTED ABOUT THE US CREDIBILITY.

HOWEVER, THERE ARE MANY PUBLIC OPINION POLLS MADE PUBLIC BY HARRIS, OR BY GALLUP, OR MOST RECENTLY THERE WAS A PUBLIC OPINION POLL TAKEN BY CBS.

A YES.

Q AND ACCORDING TO THAT KIND OF POLL, ONE OUT OF FOUR AMERICANS WOULD NOT -- WOULD ONLY SUPPORT THE DISPATCH OF US TROOPS TO SAVE JAPAN IN CASE OF EMERGENCY.

AND IF US CONGRESS TAKES INTO ACCOUNT THAT KIND OF PUBLIC MOOD IN YOUR COUNTRY, WE JAPANESE ARE A BIT WORRIED ABOUT THE OUTCOME. WOULD YOU MIND GIVING YOUR COMMENT ON THAT KIND OF PUBLIC MOOD IN YOUR COUNTRY?

A WELL I THINK THAT THERE ARE SOME ISSUES ON WHICH OUR CONGRESS DIFFERS WITH THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH -- BUT CERTAINLY NOT ON OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH JAPAN; AND THAT HAS BEEN REAFFIRMED MANY TIMES BY NOT ONLY THE LEADERS OF OUR CONGRESS, BUT BY MANY OF THE RANK AND FILE MEMBERS AS WELL. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SO THAT I WOULDN'T EXPECT ANY CHANGE IN THAT ATTITUDE FOR THE FORESEEABLE FUTURE.

Q

WELL, TURNING TO THE MULTILATERAL QUESTION AGAIN, I WOULD LIKE TO REFER TO THE SPEECH MADE BY SECRETARY KISSINGER THE OTHER DAY, AND I QUOTE: "WE ARE RESOLVED TO MAINTAIN THE PEACE AND SECURITY OF THE KOREAN PENINSULA BECAUSE THIS IS A CRUCIAL IMPORTANCE TO JAPAN AND TO ALL OF ASIA, AND WE ALSO SEEK ALL HONORABLE WAYS TO REDUCE TENSIONS AND CONFRONTATIONS."

I WOULD LIKE TO ASK YOUR, FIRST OF ALL, YOUR GENERAL ASSESSMENT OF THE SITUATION ON THE KOREAN PENINSULA.

A WELL I THINK THERE ISN'T ANY QUESTION BUT THAT THERE HAS BEEN TENSION ON THE PENINSULA. BUT I DO NOT FORESEE ANY POSSIBILITY OF CONFLICT IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

I BELIEVE THAT BOTH SIDES RECOGNIZE THAT IT WOULD NOT BE IN THEIR INTEREST TO INITIATE SUCH A HOSTILITY AND I

THINK THAT IT WOULD BE IN THE INTEREST OF, CERTAINLY OF BOTH KOREAS, AND IN THE INTEREST OF JAPAN AND THE UNITED STATES, AND OTHER NATIONS IN THAT AREA TO HELP MAINTAIN A VERY STABLE SITUATION ON THE PENINSULA.

I BELIEVE THAT BOTH JAPAN AND THE UNITED STATES, ALTHOUGH I DON'T SPEAK FOR JAPAN, HAVE AN INTEREST IN ENCOURAGING THE TWO KOREAS TO SEEK OPPORTUNITIES TO FIND WAYS OF REDUCING TENSIONS AND ONE OF THE THINGS THAT HAS BEEN SUGGESTED BY SOUTH KOREAN GOVERNMENT, HAS BEEN A NONAGGRESSION PACT WHICH WOULD ASSURE A LACK OF HOSTILITIES ON THE PENINSULA.

Q

AND I SHOULD LIKE TO ASK YOU, MR. SECRETARY, WHAT ROLE CAN THE UNITED STATES AND JAPAN PLAY IN TERMS OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT THROUGHOUT ASIA.
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A WELL I BELIEVE THAT BOTH JAPAN AND THE UNITED STATES HAVE IT IN THEIR INTEREST TO SEE ECONOMIC GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES IN ASIA; AND CERTAINLY WE ARE DEDICATED TO THAT GOAL, AND I BELIEVE THE GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN IS, AS WELL -- AS HAS BEEN EVIDENCED BY CONVERSATIONS WE HAVE HAD WITH YOUR GOVERNMENT.

I THINK THAT AS COUNTRIES SEE AN OPPORTUNITY FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT THERE IS LESS TENDENCY FOR DISTURBANCES IN THESE COUNTRIES, AND CERTAINLY IT IS IN THE INTEREST OF EVERYONE TO SEE WORLD TRADE CONTINUE TO GROW.

Q MR. SECRETARY, WE JAPANESE, WE DO REALIZE THE NEED FOR THE MORE INTENSIVE COOPERATION AND INTERDEPENDENCE BETWEEN OUR TWO NATIONS IN THE ECONOMIC FIELD. HOWEVER, IT IS OUR UNDERSTANDING THAT THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT IS A LITTLE BIT TOO AGGRESSIVE TOWARD THE THIRD WORLD.

I HAVE IN MIND THE RECENT SPEECH MADE BY SECRETARY KISSINGER, ABOUT HIS RESENTMENT OF THE THIRD WORLD. WOULD YOU MIND COMMENTING ON THAT KIND OF STATEMENT?

A WELL, I THINK IT'S ONLY THAT -- THE WAY THE WORDS
ARE PERCEIVED, I THINK DR. KISSINGER IN RECENT MONTHS HAS
MADE SEVERAL SPEECHES IN WHICH HE ENCOURAGES A DIALOGUE
WITH THE THIRD WORLD, AND IN WHICH HE RECOGNIZES THE --
CERTAINLY "INTEREST" OF THE THIRD WORLD, AND INTENDS TO
SEEK A WAY IN WHICH WE CAN MEET SOME OF THEIR INTERESTS.

HE HAS HAD SPEECHES IN KANSAS CITY AND THE OECD,
AND I AM SURE THAT HE WILL BE MAKING SUCH COMMENTS AT THE
U.N. GENERAL ASSEMBLY SPECIAL SESSION IN SEPTEMBER, IN
NEW YORK.

I DON'T BELIEVE THAT ONE PARTICULAR COMMENT SHOULD BE
TAKEN OUT OF THE CONTEXT OF HIS GENERAL APPROACH TO THE
THIRD WORLD, WHICH IS CERTAINLY ONE IN WHICH HE HAS EX-
PRESSED AN INTEREST IN MEETING THEIR INTERESTS AND THEIR
NEEDS, THROUGH DIALOGUE.

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Q UH, HUH, -WELL, I THANK YOU VERY MUCH, MR. SECRETARY.

A YOU ARE WELCOME, MR. ISOMURA. IT HAS BEEN NICE TO
TALK TO YOU.

GOOD BYE.

END QUOTE. INGERSOLL

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